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Replica
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REPLICA

# Replica

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card : 11 3 THE REST ONE

card : 12 37 THE TRAITOR AND THE QUEEN OF HEARTS

card : 13 73 THE FREE PIERROT CUTS HIS STRINGS AND SMILES

card : 14 113 A JOB FOR THE WHITE RABBIT

card : 15 147 Joker



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Replica.
Case:11
The last one

WAS THAT FROM CAPTAIN KAL?
CHING
THE TIME'S FINALLY COME
A DOLL?!
YEAH. HE SAYS THEY'VE WRAPPED THINGS UP IN THAT TOWN. THERE WAS APPARENTLY A DOLL, BUT THAT'S BEEN DEALT WITH, TOO.
UHHH
MEMBERS OF CARDS, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
KWAWWW
!
CHAK
BEEEEP

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK.
Western Country
Chinese Country
Lake
Cross Oak
Death toria
Japanese Country
WE'VE LEARNED WHERE ALICE IS.
IT'S IN THE CENTER OF CROSS OAK, THE FOREST THAT DIVIDES THE WORLD INTO FOUR.
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
BUSTLE
MURMUR
WE'RE ABOUT TO MOVE OUT IN FULL FORCE.
GET READY TO GO SOON. OVER AND OUT.

KAL'S TEAM WILL LINK UP WITH HIME'S TEAM AND HEAD THERE AS WELL.
CROSS OAK... DIAMOND'S INFORMATION WAS CORRECT, THEN.
YEAH HE'S GUTSY, PUTTING IT RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF THE WORLD
...!
A STORY ABOUT WONDER-LAND. .
LOOKS LIKE WE PLAYING CARD SOLDIERS ARE FOLLOWING ITS COURSE.
THE MARCH HARE. THE HATTER
ALICE. THE CHESHIRE CAT.
HMM, IT SURE IS CONVO-LUTED
DOESN'T THAT MEAN HE'S LURING US THERE ...?
ALICE
THE BEGINNING AND END OF THIS STORY HAPPENS AT THE SAME PLACE.
WE CALL THAT PLACE "ALICE."
EITHER WAY, I'D SAY WE HAVE TO GO.

IT'S BECAUSE HE LOVED ALICE.
WHY WOULD AAA USE THAT STORY...?
IT'S A RATHER COMPLICATED WAY TO KILL TIME.
I BET YOU'RE WORRIED I'M AAA'S SPY.
YOU'RE SO EASY TO READ.

...IT'S JUST, YOU STILL KEEP SECRETS FROM ME WHEN WE'VE FOUGHT THIS FIGHT TOGETHER FOR OVER TWO YEARS ...
THAT'S KIND OF AWKWARD. OR, SAD MAYBE...
HEY LOOK AT THE SHAPE I'M IN
WELL, I GUESS I DON'T BLAME YOU FOR BEING SUSPI-CIOUS--
N-NO, I DON'T SUSPECT YOU!
I THINK IT'S SAD THAT FOR OVER TWO YEARS, YOU HAVEN'T LOOKED ME IN THE EYE WHEN YOU SPEAK TO ME
YOU NOTICED THAT?
IT'S NO SE-CRET.
BUT I GUESS THAT'S HOW IT GOES, WITH US DOLLS.
OH, OKAY.
GREP
YOU STAY HERE.
WE'RE READY
ZENRII NITO!
WE CAN GO ANYTIME!

HEY NOW ENOUGH WITH THE OLD MAN TREATMENT
HUH? WAIT.."STAY HERE"?
GRRSH
YOU'LL STAY AND BE IN CHARGE OF COMMUNICATIONS.
SOME OF US STILL HAVEN'T COME BACK FROM THE FIELD
UHM?! SHOULD YOU BE STANDING UP?
KREEK
KSHOOSH
ROUND UP AND BRING THE REST OF US WE'LL ALL GET THERE EVENTUALLY
DON'T BE DUMB. ALL US DOLLS HAVE TO GO.
THEN YOU SHOULD BE THE ONE TO...!

I'M COUNTING ON YOU, MR. COMMANDER'S AIDE.

--YOU KNOW WHAT, YOU BORROWED A PEN FROM ME.
CHATTER
ME, TOO!
YOU HAVEN'T RETURNED MY PEN, EITHER.
YOU STILL HAVE MY BOOK, TOO!
EGH?
YOU HAVEN'T GIVEN IT BACK YET.
AHH? DID I? WHY DO YOU MENTION IT?
AFTER ALL THE STUFF YOU BORROWED, THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO SAY?
EHH
YEAH, YEAH. PLEASE DO THE RIGHT THING!
IT'S A DONE DEAL!
WE'RE ALL GOING TO COME BACK HERE.
PLEASE PROMISE US.

THE CHESHIRE CAT

THE MARCH HARE

THE HATTER

WHAT COMES NEXT?

ALL THESE THINGS HAVE BEEN SO STRANGE

BUT, OF COURSE, THIS IS WONDERLAND.

*NOW, WHAT'S NEXT?*

"THE QUEEN GREW ANGRY AND SAID, 'OFF WITH HER HEAD.'"
Alice's Adventures in
I JUST CAN'T STAND STOPPING IN THE MIDDLE DON'T LAUGH!
HEE HEE...
DO YOU LIKE STORIES, MANGY?! I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE INTO FAIRY TALES!
OHHH?
IT'S TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING FOR THIS.
DON'T ACT LIKE IT WAS SUCH A HUGE EFFORT!
--AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER
NO THEY DIDN'T! WHAT'S WITH THAT ENDING?! IT'S OBVIOUS THE STORY WASN'T OVER!
WHEW
HEARTS?! SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!
WE'RE NOT PLAYIN' AROUND HERE.
YES, IT TAUGHT ME THE STORY'S FLOW I GUESS THE NEXT TO APPEAR WILL BE THE QUEEN OF HEARTS.
DID THIS BOOK COME IN HANDY?!
BUT ALICE IS JUST THAT KIND OF STORY

DON'T WORRY, HIME AND I ARE STRONG!
AGHH?!
PEOPLE, TOYS-- WE'LL KILL THEM ALL.
HMPH. I CAN'T STAND YOU, MANGY.
FWIP
NEVER MIND ABOUT ME
YOU SAY IT TOO, MANGY.
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU SAYIN'?!
WHA?!
GIVE IT UP. NORMAL CONVERSATION DOESN'T WORK WITH SHIRAHIME.
THAT BRAT...
AGH?!
WHY'RE YOU APOLOGIZING?
UM
I LOVE YOU HIME!
UH.. I'M.. SORRY...

"IT'S LIKE HUMANS ARE AFRAID OF SOMETHING ALIEN TO THEM."
"JOY AND ANGER MIGHT BE DIFFERENT FOR EACH DOLL, BUT YOU CAN PROBABLY SEE IT IN THEIR EYES."
KIND OF LACKING WHEN IT COMES TO EMOTION."
ZENRI WAS TALKING ABOUT IT.
"...IT'S PROBABLY SADNESS."
"IF THERE'S ONE THING WE ALL LACK..."
"THOSE EYES SCARE ME."
YEAH
I'M SURE SHIRAHIME LACKS A LOT OF THINGS.
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND IT, BUT IF ZENRI SAYS SO, IT'S LIKELY TRUE.

WE CAN TAKE OUR TIME... ONCE THIS FIGHT... IS OVER...
IT-IT'S OKAY... SHE'LL UNDER-STAND... IF YOU... EXPLAIN IT...
"IF ALICE DIES, SO WILL YOU DOLLS."
YOUR MY FIRST FRIEND TOO, HIME.
CHEEEH!
ME, TOO! ME, TOO.
UM... THAT I'M THANKFUL... FOR YOU... FOR BEING... MY FIRST FRIEND EVER...
HUH? WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
SWERVE
AGH!
SWERVE
SWERVE
AGH
WHAT, YOU DON'T KNOW?

PRICK!
IT'S BETTER NOT TO KNOW SOME THINGS.
DOLLS ARE JUST REPLICAS OF PEOPLE, AFTER ALL.
TCH!
DON'T LOOK THAT WAY TO ME.
GYRRN
BROMMM

SHUNK
SPLACH
SHUNK
SPLACH
WHAM
GOOD SHOW TODAY, IF I DO SAY SO MYSELF
WHEW THAT'S ALL OF 'EM!

BUT WE ONLY JUST GOT TO CROSS OAK, AND LOOK AT ALL THIS...
I'D SAY IT'S A SAFE BET ALICE IS HERE, ALL RIGHT.
SO THAT'S CROSS OAK, HUH?
YOWEE, THAT'S HUGE.

ALICE, IN A PLACE LIKE THIS...
...I CAN'T REMEMBER THAT AT ALL.
ZENRI WAS SAYING IT'S IN THE CENTER, THERE.
MHM...
THIS REALLY IS WHERE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO MEET UP WITH THE OTHERS, RIGHT?!
Septress Country
Dark Lord Country
OH, BUT I SHOULD
CIAO!
YEAH. WE'LL GO DO SOME SCOUTING.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. GET SOME REST BEFORE THE OTHERS ARRIVE.
OHH I'D FORGOTTEN!
THANK YOU, CAPTAINS. I WAS INVESTIGATING WHEN THEY SUDDENLY.. YOU SAVED ME.
IT'S POSSIBLE WE HAVE AN INFORMER IN OUR MIDST
MHM. I THINK THE TIMING WAS TOO GOOD, THOUGH.
THANK GOODNESS IT HAPPEN ONCE WE GOT HERE.
BUNCH OF TOYS SHOWED ULULP...♪
CLOSE CALLL. ♪

HEY, VALLEY
WHAT'S UP?
WHAT DO YOU...?
ARE YOU ON MY SIDE, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS?

EERY
THERE YOU ARE.
WHOA BIG ASS FOREST
WE'RE NEARLY FULLY ASSEMBLED. YOU'RE THE LAST WE WERE WAITING ON.
WOW, YOU'RE A SIGHT TO SEE. KAL MUST HAVE TAKEN CARE OF YOU AGAIN.
SHUT UP.
HERE.
AGH?
--!
GOT A MINUTE, KAL?
WHAT IS IT?

LISTEN, AND REMAIN CALM.
IT WAS INSIDE CARDS HQ.
...AN AUDIO BUG?
KNOW WHAT THIS IS?
THERE'S A TRAITOR AMONG US.
IT'S STRANGE, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT.
EVERYWHERE YOU WENT, A STORY UNFOLDED. NOTHING WE DID REMAINED A SECRET.
WE STILL CAN'T PIN DOWN WHO THE TURN-COAT IS.
IT MIGHT EVEN BE ME, OR YOU.

BE CAREFUL WE'LL PROBABLY SPLIT UP ONCE WE ENTER ALICE.
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP, EVEN IF YOU COME ACROSS ALLIES.
WHY DID YOU TELL ME...? I DOUBT YOU'VE TOLD ANYONE ELSE.
I DON'T KNOW, I JUST DID.
—
ZENRIII! KALLL!
WHA?!
SATZ, WERE YOU LISTENING...?!
TO WHAT?
OKAY, NEVER MIND.
? ? ?

WHOA, WHOA. DON'T GO RUNNING OFF LIKE THAT.
CHECK IT OUT I SAW ALICE!
OH? AWESOME SAKIDON
BUT, NOW WE KNOW FOR SURE.
...
OH, RIGHT
WE SAW ALICE.
HUH ...?!
WE FOUND IT INSIDE THE FOREST!
-- YEAH.
... WOW.
WHOMM!
IT'S LIKE ALL "WHOMM," AND YOU CAN KINDA SEE THROUGH IT!
WHEN WE LOOKED CLOSER, THERE WAS THIS HUGE SPARKLING GLASS PLATE!
Glass
Alice
USUALLY YOU CAN'T SEE IT.
THE GLASS PLATES ARE SUPPOSED TO USE THE REFRACTION OF LIGHT TO MAKE IT INVISIBLE.
IT'S A GOOD IDEA. NO WONDER WE WERE NEVER ABLE TO FIND IT.
NO FAIR. THAT ONLY KAL GETS TO REMEMBER.
NUANCE ONLY!
I GET IT NOW, THANKS TO THAT EXPLANATION

WELL, WE FINALLY MANAGED TO REACH THIS POINT
IT DOESN'T MATTER *WHY* ALICE FINALLY DECIDED TO SHOW ITSELF.
-- THAT'S TRUE.
IT'S BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE WE LEFT THAT PLACE.
HAS IT GONE BY QUICKLY, OR SLOWLY?
WHERE'D *THAT* COME FROM?
?
WELL --
I WAS JUST THINKING, IT MIGHT BE YOUR COLLECTIVE EFFORTS THAT KEPT TOY ACTIVITY DOWN TO A MINIMUM
IT COMES DOWN TO WHAT *YOU* SAID, WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT IT.

"WANT TO TAKE OUT ALICE?"
--ARE YOU GLAD WE DID THIS?
YOU WERE THE FIRST DOLL EVER BUILT.
YEAH, IT WAS ALL WE COULD DO JUST TO ESCAPE.
YOU GOT THAT RIGHT I WONDER WHERE WE'D BE, IF NOT FOR ZENRI.
IT'S MY JOB TO STOP HIM.
MASH
..ALL THE MORE REASON.
WEREN'T YOU AAA'S BEST FRIEND?

--IS IT POSSIBLE TO PROTECT EVERYONE?
AND WE'RE DOLLS! SOMETIMES THE WORLD DOESN'T MAKE SENSE, YOU KNOW?
AT FIRST, ALL WE WANTED WAS NOT TO FOLLOW HIS ORDERS
THEN ONE DAY WE WERE OPPOSING HIM, DESTROYING TOYS, AND PROTECTING HUMANS.
I'M SURE I'LL KEEP DOING IT, TOO.
..I'VE NEVER HESITATED TO SACRIFICE THE MINORITY IF IT MEANS SAVING THE MAJORITY.
HM?
--THE RED DOG, HUH?
HECK, YOU DON'T HAVE TO LET HIM INFLUENCE YOU.
RIGHT?
HAVE I BEEN MAKING A MISTAKE?
BUT NOW THERE'S A GUY WHO, INSTEAD, GOES AFTER EVERYTHING HE CAN SEE, HUH...?

AGHH?
DON'T LOOK AT ME. JUST DO THINGS THE WAY YOU WANT TO DO 'EM.
THERE YOU GO.
...EAVES-DROPPING, HUH? ISN'T THAT LOVELY.
YOU WEREN'T WHISPERING
I GET HOW YOU DO THINGS.
I COULDN'T DO IT. IT PISSES ME OFF..
...BUT WATCHING YOU BE WISHY-WASHY PISSES ME OFF A LOT MORE.
FORGET IT.
JUST BELIEVE IN YOURSELF FOR A CHANGE FOO...
--YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT.
I FORGOT YOU'RE INCAPABLE OF ANYTHING DEEPER THAN EGOCENTRIC THOUGHT.
AND YOU COMPLAIN TOO MUCH
F G H
BMPH
IT SEEMS CLEARER NOW.
EVEN IF YOU TRY TO PICK UP EVERYTHING SOMETHING WILL FALL THROUGH THE CRACKS
YOU'LL HAVE TO PICK THAT UP AGAIN TOO!

I'LL DO THINGS MY OWN WAY
THEY MAKE A GOOD TEAM
SORRY FOR GETTING YOU INVOLVED IN THIS WHOLE TOY THING
KRSH
..I'M NOT THE ONE YOU SHOULD SAY THAT TO.
PLEASE DON'T APOLOGIZE, SIR.
HM?

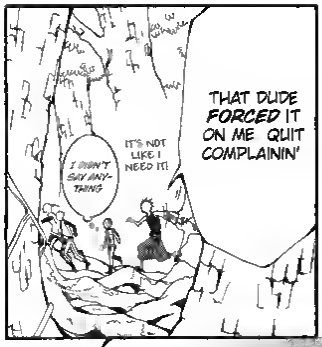
THAT'S RIGHT!
WE'VE COME THIS FAR WITH YOU. PLEASE TAKE US ALONG ALL THE WAY TO THE END.

WE'RE HERE BECAUSE WE CHOSE TO BE.
DON'T BE SO RESERVED, COMMANDER.
~KH!
...WHAT A BUNCH OF DUM-MIES.
RAHHHH
WE'RE READY TO GO!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT.
HERE WE GO, GUYS. BE SURE TO KEEP UP.
CHING
GAB
Y'KNOW, SAITZOON?!
GAB
EHEHEH I FEEL KINDA HAPPY!
GAB
...YOU KNOW IT.

GAME TIME
FWUP
RAHHHH
YOU'VE GOT A ..

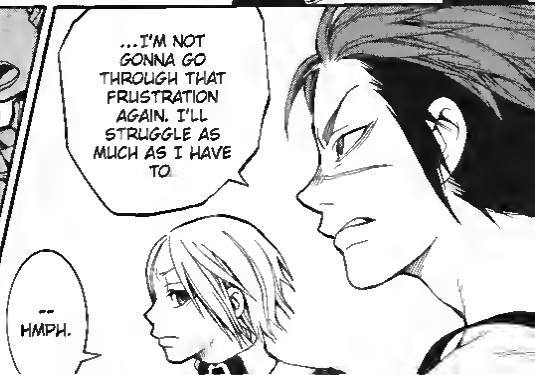
I ALREADY KNOW THAT.
I WILL SAY ONE THING. I'M A SACRIFICIAL DOLL.


THAT DUDE FORCED IT ON ME QUIT COMPLAININ'
IT'S NOT LIKE I NEED IT!
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING

IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DON'T GET HURT BADLY.
WHY DOES EVERY-BODY SEEM TO BE AGAINST ME?
YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS

I THOUGHT USING MY POWER WAS MY REASON FOR BEING BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER NOW
THIS IS GOING TO BE A WINNER-TAKE-ALL FIGHT.
I NEED YOU TO BE AT YOUR FULL POTENTIAL, SO I WON'T HOLD BACK WITH MY POWER.

THERE! I SEE IT!
THAT'S IT?!


...I'M NOT GONNA GO THROUGH THAT FRUSTRATION AGAIN. I'LL STRUGGLE AS MUCH AS I HAVE TO.
... HMPH.

ARE YOU READY FOR THIS?
"IF ALICE DIES..."
IF YOU'RE UNSURE, SAY SO NOW.
I'LL JUST SAY ONE THING, TOO.
SHUNK
AND THEN SOME.

*ONE MORE.*

THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER.
LET'S KICK SOME ASS.
ONE MORE.

RMMBLE
WE JUST GOT BACK, NITO.
HERE'S THE UPSIDE-DOWN CITY FOLLOW-UP REPORT, BUT AS DRUGS WERE INVOLVED, THE PLACE PROBABLY JUST NEEDS A SPECIALIST'S ATTENTION
SAKURAMA
GOOD WORK.
DSSSH
NOW, THIS MEANS ...
...ALL OF US ARE HERE.

!
DSSSH
THIS IS AN EARTH QUAKE NEWS FLASH
THERE'VE BEEN A LOT LATELY.
S-SAY WHAT? ANOTHER EARTH-QUAKE?
--LET'S GET MOVING
THE EPICENTER APPEARS TO BE IN CROSS OAK. THE EXACT LOCATION IS STILL UNDER--

DSHH
CARD:12
THE
TRAITOR
AND THE
QUEEN OF
HEARTS
card:12
裏切りものと
ハートの女王
IT-IT'S
HUGE...
SO THIS
IS ALICE..

ZENRI, WE DON'T SEE ANYTHING THAT LOOKS LIKE AN ENTRANCE.
KAL?
THERE IS NO ENTRANCE. IT'S DESIGNED TO ONLY BE OPENED FROM THE INSIDE.
HOWEVER, THESE ROUND SECTIONS ARE ALL SUPPOSED TO CONNECT TO PASSAGES.
OH.. THEN, HOW DO WE..?
WHRANG
KRIK
KRIK
KRIK
STAND ASIDE.

LET'S GO.
CHONG
PZZ
CRASSSH
KR5H
BUT I DIDN'T THINK I WAS THIS WORN OUT...
HMM
CREAK
I MAY BE AN ANTIQUE, BUT I'M STILL A NUTCRACKER DOLL
I CAN CRACK SOME-THING LIKE THIS WITH EASE
YEAH YOU'D NEVER THINK IT TO LOOK AT ME
THAT'S WILD, MAN.

SHOWING OFF IS FINE, BUT PLEASE DON'T DO ANYTHING RASH.
HOW FAR DOES THIS GO?
HEY BE CAREFUL.
THIS'S INCRED IBLE
HUH? YOU MEAN CAPTAIN KAL...?
DON'T RANDOMLY TOUCH STUFF
HAS KAL EVER SHOWN CONCERN FOR YOU?
HMM, WELL--
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I DIDN'T THINK SO.
...NO.

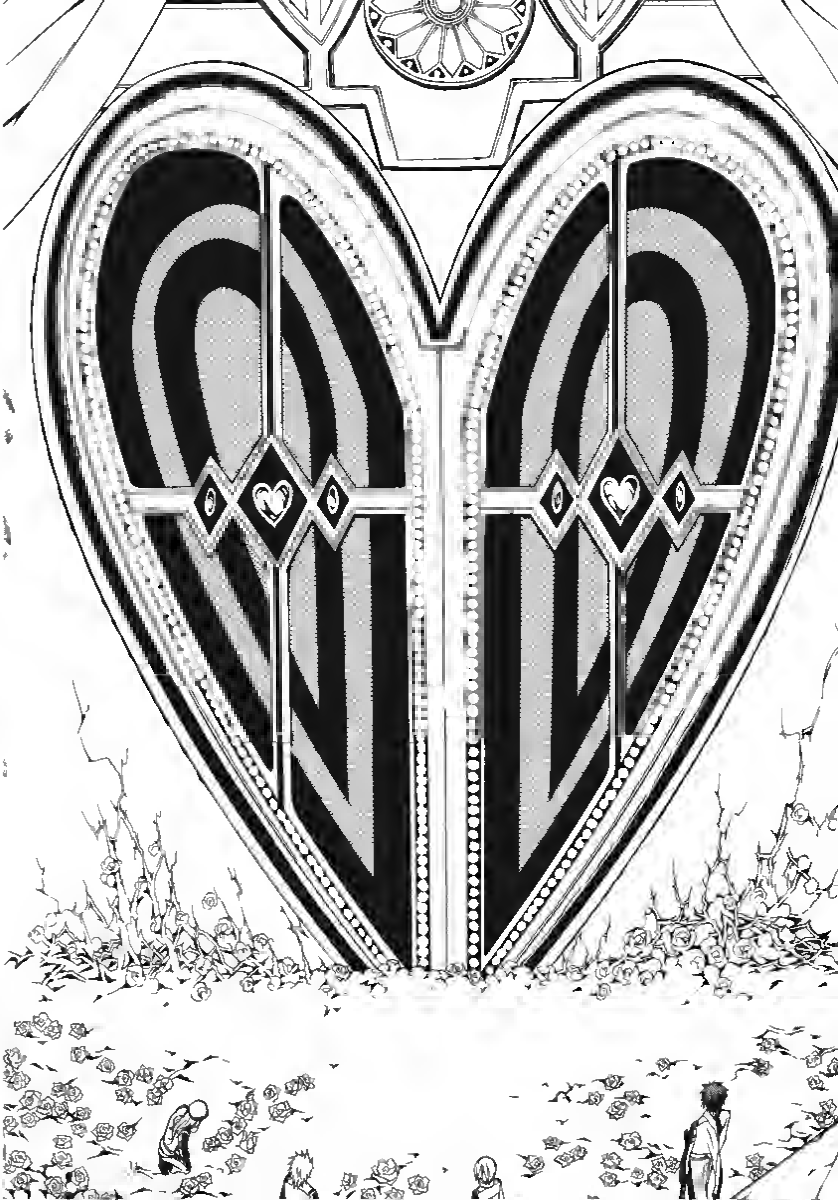
HE'S LEARNING FEELINGS...
I JUST KNOW THE HEART OF THIS PRODUCTION FACILITY IS ON THE TOP FLOOR
IT'S TWISTED UP LIKE A MAZE FROM HERE, AND I DON'T KNOW THE WAY.
ZENRI?
YEAH.
YOU REMEMBERED ALL ABOUT ALICE
...I NEVER USED TO GET OUTSIDE MUCH.
SHUT-IN, HUH?
SOMEONE NEEDS TO DESTROY THAT, AND HE CAN'T MAKE ANY MORE TOYS.

WE'LL SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS HERE.
CLUB AND SPADE...
AND HEART AND DIA-MOND.
BOTH WILL SEARCH FOR THE TOP FLOOR. ANYONE WHO GETS INJURED, JUST LEAVE. GOT IT?
BEST OF LUCK, EVERY-ONE.
THERE'RE TRAPS, TOO. BE CARE-FUL!
...HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?

ZENRI
ARE YOU--
...
UHH--JUST GUESSING ...
DO YOU...
HAVE A MINUTE?
CHONG
THEY SAID THERE'RE TRAPS
HEY, DON'T TOUCH THINGS
HE'LL PROB-ABLY CATCH UP.
HUH, WHERE'S ZENRI?

AH.
SHONK
WHA ?!
GRAB HOLD!
TCH!
HOHHHN
CAPTAIN ...!

AUGHHHH
UOHHHH! WE'RE NOT STOPPIN'!
SHRAAAAA
BECAUSE THE BLADE'S POINTED DOWN, STUPID!
CHOK
WHOCK
BWOOF
SHO
OMP
BLEED
OWWW
GODDAMN HIM AND HIS CRAPPY TRAPS...!
CAPTAIN SHIRAHIME
SORRY!
ROSES ...?
DOOSH



GREEEEEE
THE DOOR...
GREEE
!
--THE QUEEN OF HEARTS
!!
TOYS?!
SHIT!
HUH?

--!
WOW ...
THAT'S WHAT THE RED DOG CAN DO?
WHY ARE YOU JUST STANDING THERE?
OH, RIGHT!

CHAK
カチ
"Change"
LET'S DO THIS!
レベル
MODE 2-Sniper
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
--THAT WAS A HELL OF A HELLO.
SHNK
DOOSH
THUD
CRASH

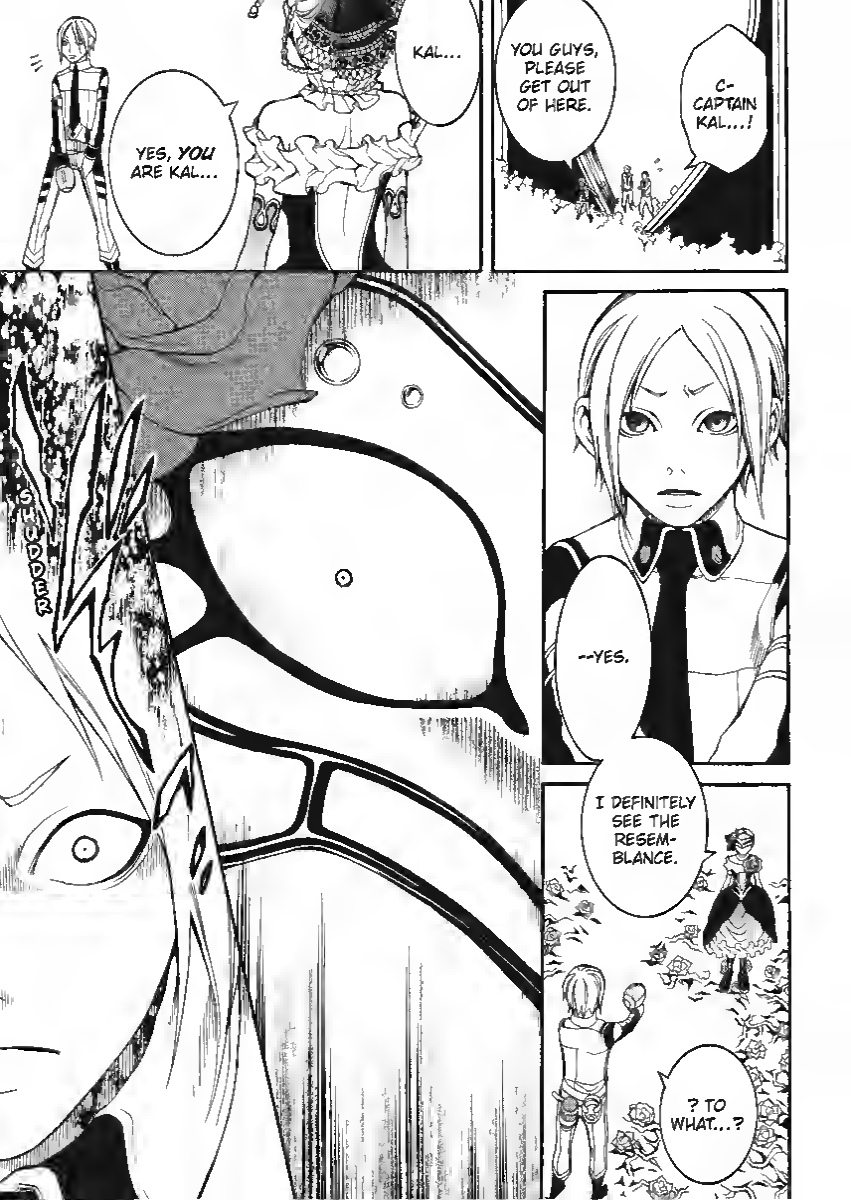
WELCOME
...
WHO'S SHE? A DOLL?
A D-DOLL?!

TO MY GARDEN.
I DON'T KNOW.
MY GUESS IS, SHE'S A DOLL WHO WAS MADE AFTER ME.
MY NAME IS QUEEN.
I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE BEFORE ...

WHOMP
!!
GUH!
WHMP
WHMP
WHA
?!

I'M A FLOWER DOLL.
WHY, YOU!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
A DOLL OF PLEASURE WHO DANCES FOR HIM.
WHAM
SHIRA-HIME!

I AM THE LATEST MODEL OF DOLL, AFTER ALL.
YOU CAN UNLEASH YOUR POWERS EVEN WITHOUT A CONTRACT PARTNER?
HNNN!
WHOA, IT'S ALL RED!
THE MORE BLOOD THEY DRINK, THE MORE POWER I HAVE. ANYBODY'S BLOOD.
THESE ROSES AND I ARE CONNECTED.
EH...
HIME! LET'S GET HER!
GREAT! NOW MY HAIR'S A TOTAL MESS!
?
SHEER
HIME
YOU'D BETTER WATCH YOURSELF.


C-CAPTAIN KAL...!
YOU GUYS, PLEASE GET OUT OF HERE.
KAL...
YES, YOU ARE KAL...
SHUDDER
--YES.
I DEFINITELY SEE THE RESEM-BLANCE.
? TO WHAT...?

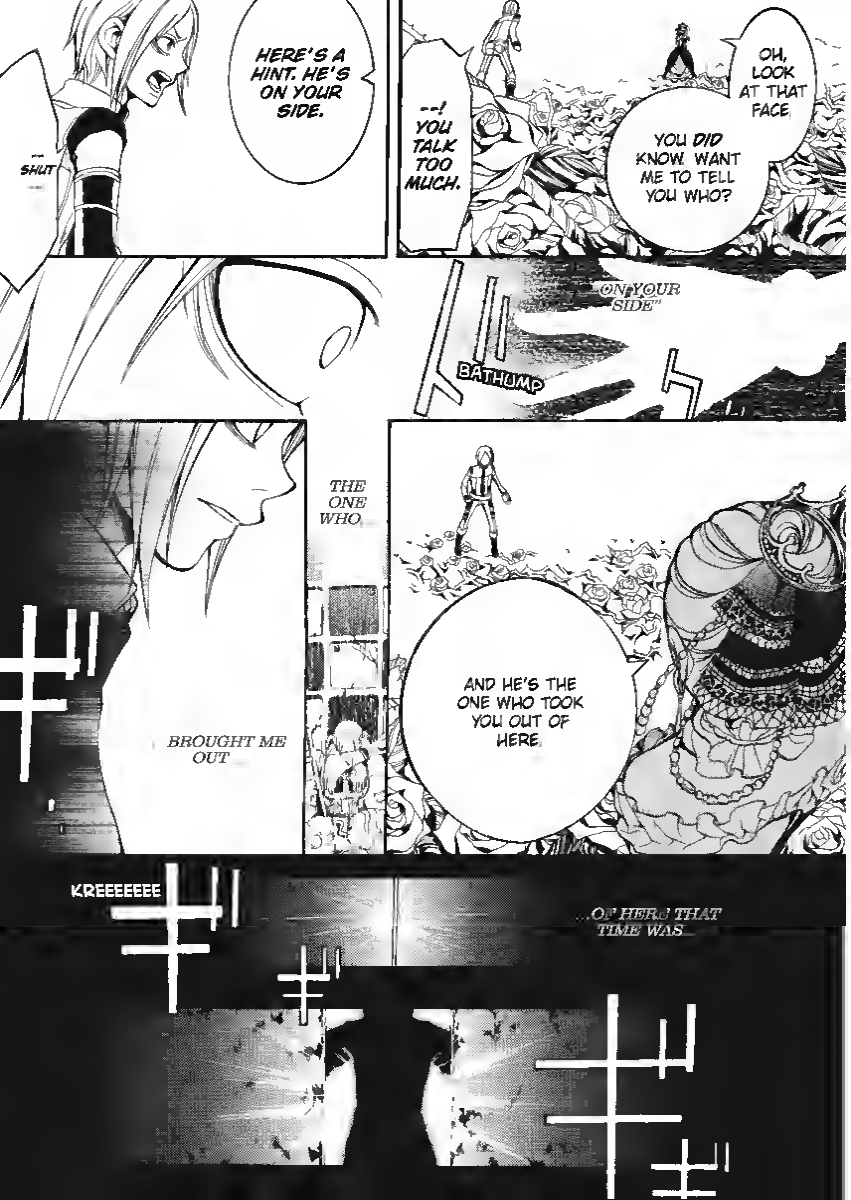
HEY!
FLICK
ZHOM
GAH ...!

WHAM
ZHOM
YOU WON'T GET OUT.
UGH!
SCREW YOU!

SADLY, I'M NOT A COMBAT MODEL.
YOU'RE WEAK.
IT'LL BE TOUGH TO WIN WITHOUT THE RED DOG.
?
WHY IS IT YOU, WHEN YOU'RE SO WEAK?
--HATE
I HATE YOU.
HEY HIME, WAKE UP--
SHAKE
SHAKE
HIMEEE
HIMEEE
SHIT! THERE'S NO END TO THESE.

WELL, SHE WON'T WAKE UP..
OF COURSE NOT! SHE'S DYING!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU DOING?!
SHE'S BLEEDING BADLY... AT THIS RATE, SHE..
OH. HEY, HIME'S NOT GONNA DIE, RIGHT?!
CAPTAIN SHIRA-HIME!
BUT...
YOU WON'T MOVE ANY-MORE IF YOU DIE.
HIME.. ARE YOU GONNA DIE...?
--HUH ...?
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO PLAY ANY-MORE..

HIME ...?
THM
SEE? I REALLY AM STRONGER THAN YOU.
WHAM
WE CAN'T USE HIMECHIYO OR THE RED DOG
WHAT DOES THAT LEAVE ...?
YOU'RE WEAK.
I COULD DO IT, IF YOU'RE THIS WEAK..
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN NOTICED THE TRAITOR.
WHAT DO YOU KEEP TALKING ABOUT ?


HERE'S A HINT. HE'S ON YOUR SIDE.
--SHUT
--! YOU TALK TOO MUCH.
OH, LOOK AT THAT FACE
YOU DID KNOW. WANT ME TO TELL YOU WHO?
ON YOUR SIDE"
BATHUMP
THE ONE WHO
BROUGHT ME OUT
AND HE'S THE ONE WHO TOOK YOU OUT OF HERE
KREEEEEEE
...OF HER. THAT TIME WAS

"LET'S GET OUT OF THIS PLACE."

...SA--
BOOM
WEREN'T WE TOLD TO INFLICT "AS LITTLE DAMAGE AS POSSIBLE," QUEEN?
...OH, GREAT.

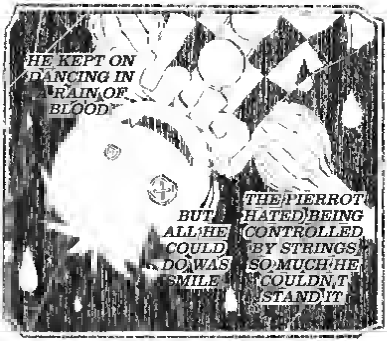
NICE TO MEET YOU INDEED I AM.
OH, SO YOU'RE HIM?
SORRY, KAL.
IT WAS MY JOB TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOU.
SATZ ...

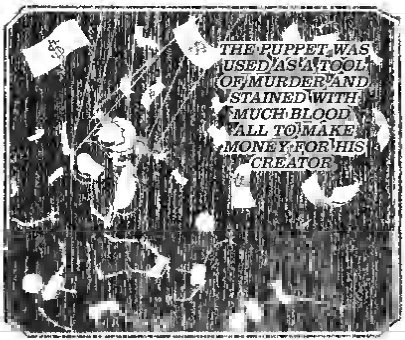
YOU'D BETTER STAY PUT IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE.
--!
DOOSH
!
HUH ...?
CAPTAIN SATZ, WHAT DO YOU...?!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS? YOU TOO, VALLEY?
I'M ON SATZ'S SIDE.

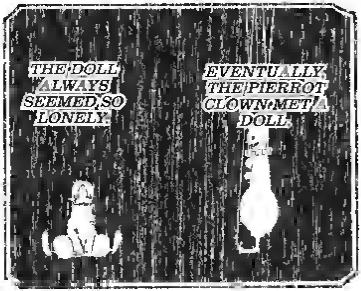
I THINK WE'D BETTER BOTH GET READY FOR THIS.
-- IT WAS ALL LIES
I'M ON YOUR SIDE!
WHAT IT COMES DOWN TO IS, MY CORE WAS ALWAYS JUST PROGRAMMED THAT WAY.
FUCK YOU, MONKEY! AND YOU TOO, WEED BITCH!
HISS!
SHWOP
RAGHHHHHH!
HE CUT HIS WAY OUT BEFORE THEY REGENERATED ?!
!
YOU REALLY ARE THE NUISANCE I HEARD YOU WERE...!

...!
SHAA
EYES ON THE FIGHT!
CHONK
ONE OR TWO OF YOU, IT MAKES NO DIFFER-ENCE.

GOOOO
OOO
WHA-?!
YOU...!
DIDN'T YOU HEAR WHAT I SAID?
IT WAS MY JOB TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.


HE KEPT ON DANCING IN RAIN OF BLOOD
BUT ALL HE COULD DO WAS SMILE
THE PIERROT HATED BEING CONTROLLED BY STRINGS, SO MUCH HE COULDN'T STAND IT





"I KNOW, LET'S GET OUT OF THIS PLACE"

HE WAS STILL DANCING TO HIS MASTER'S TUNE
HE DIDN'T REALIZE
AS ALWAYS THE ONLY THING THAT SHOWED ON HIS FACE WAS A SMILE
HE FELT FULL OF A SENSE OF OBLIGATION THAT HE MUST WATCH THE DOLL
AND FOR SOME UNKNOWN REASON THAT IRRITATED HIM
THE SUPPOSEDLY FREE PIERROT FELT NO SENSE OF FREEDOM
AT SOME POINT THE PIERROT CAME TO HATE HIS OWN FACE
BE HE ANGRY OR WORRIED THE SMILE NEVER WENT AWAY
AND THEN

CARD:13
THE FREE PIERROT CUTS HIS STRINGS AND SMILES
card:13
自由な道化師は糸を切り笑う
THE PIERROT'S PROGRAM WAS BROKEN.

CAPTAIN SATZ
IF I HADN'T STOPPED HIM, HE REALLY *WOULD* BE BROKEN.
I'M REALLY SORRY!
TO TRICK THE ENEMY, FIRST YOU GOTTA TRICK YOUR FRIENDS!
I NEVER HAD ANY LOVE FOR AAA
DON'T BE STUPID
GUH... ARE YOU...BE-TRAYING HIM?!
BETRAY-ING?
(WHUMP)
YOU BAS-TARD!

TAKE THE OTHERS AND GET OUTTA HERE.
THAT HOLE I MADE LEADS TO A PASSAGE.
SA --!
WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS.
WE ONLY HAVE ONE GOAL.
--!
NEVER FORGET.
HUHH?! SCREW THAT! I OWE HER PAYBACK!
I'LL KILL --
GUEFF
CAN TWO OF YOU CARRY HIME-CHIYO?!
RED DOG, LET'S GO.
Y-YES, SIR!

YEAH, BUT STILL ...!
MMM
HE'S SAYING HE WANTS YOU TO LET HIM SHOW OFF.
Y'OLD CREEP ...
HOH!
HOH!
HEY, MAN.
I KNOW HE'S LIKE A LITTLE BROTHER YOU CAN'T STAND, BUT LOOK AFTER HIM A BIT LONGER.
GET A CLUE HERE, !DIOT.
S-SORRY ABOUT THIS...!
SHIFT
SAY WHAT?! HEY!
LEGGO!
--TCH!
RARGH
HA HA
BE REASONABLE, MAN
I'LL BEAT YOU TO DEATH IF YOU DON'T!
DON'T SHOW OFF TOO MUCH, MONKEY!
YOU BETTER CATCH UP WITH US LATER!

SHE NEVER GIVES.
NOT THAT THROWING DAGGERS AROUND IS ALL THAT GREAT A POWER.
--NOW, THEN.
SPANNNG
YOU ...!
IT'S YOUR FAULT
IF NOTHING ELSE I WANTED TO KILL KAL...!
...YOU MEAN OUR MASTER NEVER TOLD YOU?
YKNOW?
KAL?
WOW, YOU'VE REALLY GOT IT IN FOR HIM. WHY?
THMP
HUH?

--KAL?
SATZ HADN'T BETRAYED US.

WE'RE BACK TO WHERE WE STARTED.
NOW WHAT?
WHAT IS IT?
ARE YOU LISTENIN', HAIR-LINE?!
HEY!
SO, THEN...
WHERE'D THAT BUG COME FROM?
C-CAPTAIN KAL! HIMECHIYO'S IN BAD SHAPE...!
SHE'S BEEN BREATHING STRANGELY!
HIME! HIME!
!
SHIRA-HIME?
WHAT... DO I DO...?
IF HIME DIES... WHAT WILL I DO...?!
MOVE! LAY HER DOWN THERE.
R I P

SHIT, THE BLEEDING WON'T STOP
YOU'LL FIND THE EXIT IF YOU GO DOWN FROM HERE. YOU TWO, PLEASE CARRY HER OUTSIDE.
HIMECHIYO NEEDS TO GET AWAY FROM ALICE.
YES, SIR.
N-
NO!
AGH! WHAT'RE YOU SAYIN'?!
DON'T TAKE HIME AWAY FROM ME! PLEASE...!
SHE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'D BE MY FRIEND AFTER FINDING OUT I'M A DOLL!
EVERYONE ELSE SAID I WAS SCARY, OR CREEPY.
HIME'S THE ONLY ONE...!
WE'RE JUST REPLICAS OF PEOPLE AFTER ALL.
--TCH! THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY

WHAT DO WE DO..?
NOOO!
SHE'S PANICK-ING... I'VE NEVER SEEN HER LIKE THIS
DON'T TAKE HIME AWAY! I DON'T WANNA BE ALONE AGAIN ...!
NOO!
CAP-TAIN SHIRA-HIME!
PLEASE, HURRY AND GO.
FLINCH
SHUT UP!
HUH? WH...?
I'VE HEARD ENOUGH A' THIS DOLL AND REPLICA SHIT

YOU GET MAD. YOU SHOUT. YOU LOOK HUMAN ENOUGH TO ME.
SORRY TO BREAK IT TO YOU, FOOL.
LET'S SHOW THEM YOU CAN HOLD YOUR OWN EVEN ON YOUR OWN.
TWIST
WHAT DO YOU WANNA DO?
YOU WANNA LET HER DIE?
NO!
THEN BE QUIET AND LET HER GO. SHE'S GOT ENOUGH TO DEAL WITH

...WILL SHE BE OKAY?
YEAH, A DOCTOR'LL FIX HER LIP IN NO TIME
SQUINT
...OKAY, I'LL TRY...!
SHIRA-HIME ...
I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN FACE THIS ALONE.
THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO IF HIME'S NOT HERE...
CLUTCH
HEFT
C'MON, LET'S GO.
I'M...
I'M SCARED.
SHAKE
SHAKE

YOU'RE NOT ALONE.
GO AHEAD AND RELY ON US A LITTLE. WE'LL BRING THIS WHOLE PLACE DOWN.
GRIPE
GRIPE
PLEAH-PAA-PACK!
OH GET REAL, BRAT!
...THE RED DOG ISN'T THAT BAD A GUY, IS HE?
WHICH IS SURPRISING.
AGHH ?!
--GIMME A PIGGY-BACK...
I THINK MAYBE I LIKE YOU A LITTLE, MANGY.
GLAD TO HEAR IT.

ZSHHH
KWIIIRN
WHAT'S THAT?!
ZSHH
...
SOMEBODY DESTROYED THE PRODUCTION FACILITY..!
!
WHONG

PANG
I GUESS THAT WOULD BREAK AN ARM
KRUNK
WELL, IT'S CHEAP WHEN THE TRADEOFF'S NO MORE TOYS BEING BUILT.
VEEEEN

EH, ZENRI?
MY MY, YOU REALLY DID A NUMBER ON THAT PLACE. SUCH A TRAGEDY.
VMMM
HEH
WHAT'S THE MATTER? HAS IT BEEN SO LONG, YOU'VE FORGOTTEN ME?
HEH
...NO.
I WAS WAITING FOR YOU.

..THAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU HAVE TO SAY TO YOUR BEST FRIEND AFTER THREE YEARS? HOW SAD.
..TO KILL YOU.
I'M HERE...
HEH
HEH
HEH
IN THAT CASE, HOW ARE YOU EVEN HERE, I WONDER?
STOP PLAYING YOUR GAMES I KNOW YOU'VE BEEN WATCHING
HOW AM I YOUR BEST FRIEND?
YOU NEVER ONCE LET ME IN ON ANYTHING.
BUT THEN, I NEVER EXPECTED HIS PROGRAM TO HAVE BEEN BROKEN.
OF COURSE.

I WONDER HOW DESPERATE HE WAS TO WIN OVER YOUR DEEP SKEPTICISM.
AND I DEFINITELY NEVER EXPECTED HIM TO SHOW YOU THE SECRET PASSAGE TO THE PRODUCTION FACILITY.
RIGHT AND I DON'T SEE WHY YOU'D BOTHER PROGRAMMING THAT
THE PROGRAM JUST MADE HIM WATCH TO MAKE SURE KAL NEVER DESTROYED HIMSELF.
HMM? IT'S NOTHING OF IMPORT.
--I DON'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING OF THE PROGRAM YOU PUT INTO SATZ.
I KNOW ABOUT THE DAY YOU MADE ME...
AND ABOUT "ALICE."
...HARD TO SAY. PROBABLY EVERYTHING.
--HOW MUCH ...
...OF IT ALL DO YOU KNOW?

I ALSO KNOW YOUR FACE.
...THAT'S PLENTY.
WE LOOK ALIKE, DON'T WE?
IF YOU WENT SO FAR AS TO MAKE THIS PLACE, WHY IS KAL--
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?!

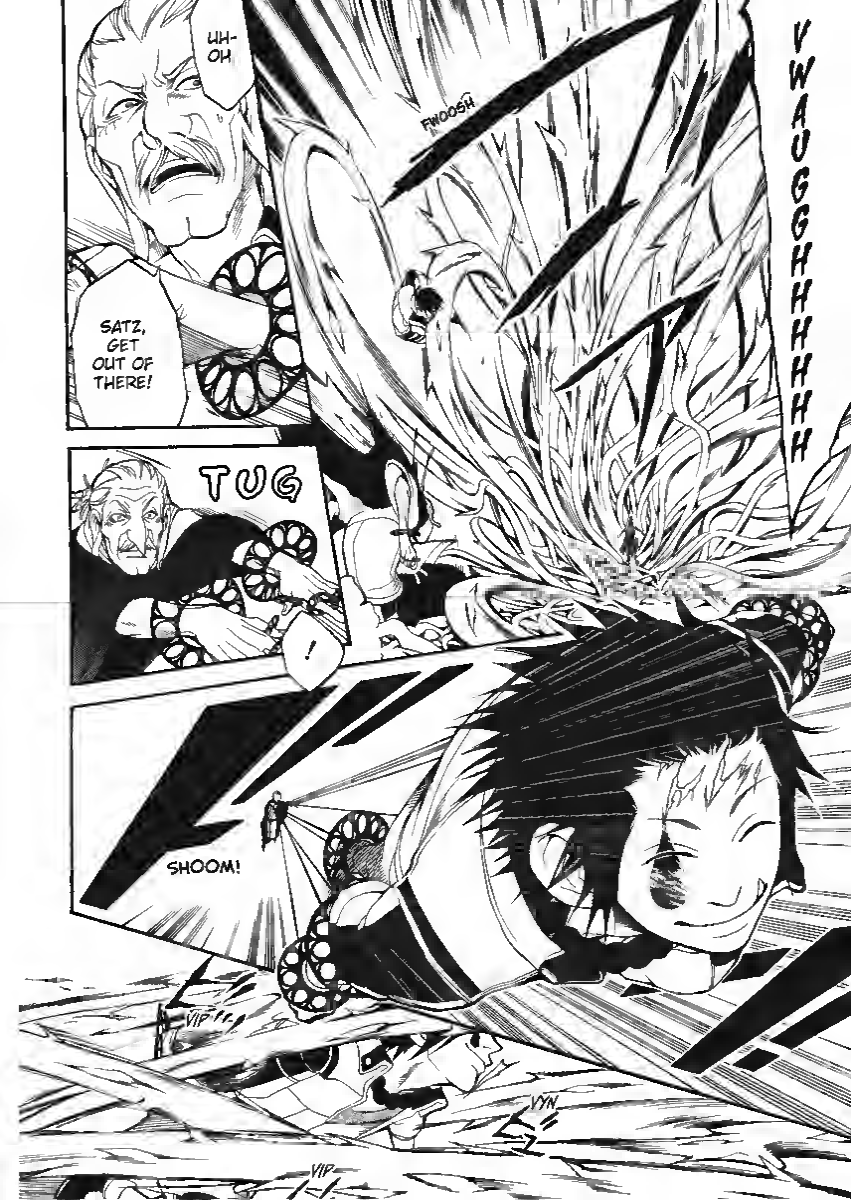
--!
DOES IT HELP YOU SEE, IF I DO *THIS?*
VNN
!
SNAPT
ALL I'M DOING IS PUTTING TOGETHER A STORY.

NITO... YOU'VE ARRIVED.
ALL OF YOU ARE MOVING THE STORY ALONG NICELY.
SAY WHAT ...?
KAL...?!
!
DOLLS ARE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER TOYS, IN THAT THEY CAN DEVELOP EMOTIONS.
KEY ...?
THAT WAS ORIGINALLY ANOTHER KEY CANDIDATE.
AHH, YES.

I KNOW.
AND KAL'S DOING IT NOW...
IS... THAT YOUR GOAL?!
WHAT'RE YOU GOING TO DO ONCE KAL DEVELOPS FEELINGS?!
IS HE SUPPOSED TO BE THE MAIN CHARACTER OF THIS "STORY" OF YOURS?
YOU'RE HALF CORRECT.
KAL IS DEVELOPING QUITE NICELY.
IT'S ALMOST LIKE HE'S BECOMING HUMAN.
COM-PARED TO THAT --
IT IS FILLED WITH NOTHING BUT LOVE FOR ME, AND THE RESULTING JEALOUSY.
IT'S A FLOP...A FLOP THAT COULD NEVER BECOME THE HAIN CHARACTER.

I DON'T NEED IT ANY-MORE.
VWOM-
THEN I'LL JUST TAKE OUT YOUR PUPPE-TEER...!
SHFF
HEH HEHH, AREN'T YOU ABOUT OUT OF POWER?!
OF COURSE, I CAN KEEP GOING!
HO HO HO!
DREAM ON.
--!
YOU GO VALLEY SNCE!!
KG
KG
CHNK
YOOP

WHY IS IT KAL? WHY...?!
I'M THE STRONGER ONE.
WHY DO YOU INTERFERE?
I'M THE ONE WHO'LL WALK STRAIGHT DOWN THE PATH OF HIS STORY...!
WHAT THE HELL'RE YOU EVEN TALKIN' ABOUT?
WHAM!
...!
KRRSH
HNGH


UH-OH
SATZ, GET OUT OF THERE!
FWOOSH
VWAUGGHHHHHH
TUG
SHOOM!
VIP!!
VYN
VIP

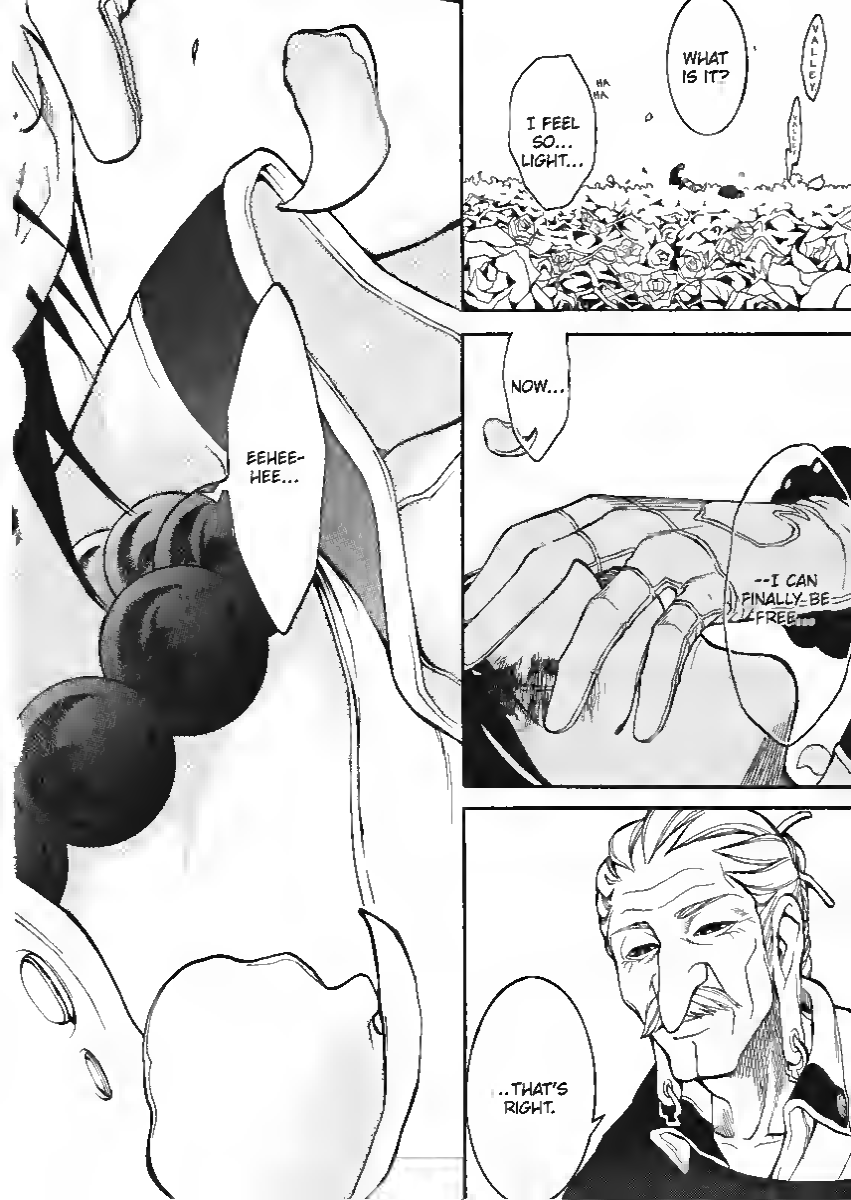
I DON'T HAVE FEELINGS LIKE THAT.
WHA?!
AREN'T YOU AFRAID OF DYING?!
ALL I HAVE IS HATRED FOR AAA, AND SYMPATHY FOR KAL.
AND...
YOU CAN LOVE ME LIKE A FATHER, IF YOU LIKE. I WON'T MIND.
OHOH, YOU'RE NAMED SATZ? I'M VALLEY.

AUGHHHH!
ZHOMM
SATZ! COME BACK!
I GUESS NO MATTER HOW FAR A DOLL COMES, HE'S STILL A DOLL.
IT'S REALLY FUNNY THAT THE FREEDOM I THOUGHT I HAD WAS JUST A SHAM
WHAT'RE YOU ...?
THE DAY I CUT MY STRINGS, THE DAY I RAN FROM ALICE, I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE FREE THEN.
SATZ!
SO...
...LET ME BE YOUR PUPPET UNTIL THE VERY END, VALLEY.

IT WAS ALWAYS SO MUCH FUN
"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS"? I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ON YOUR SIDE.
YOU SURE ARE A TROUBLE-SOME, FOOLISH SON.
I WAS HAPPY.
WHAT A GREAT FATHER.
BUT YOU KNOW VALLEY
IT WAS LIKE I WAS HUMAN, WHEN I WAS WITH YOU
--YOU FOOL OF A...!
TUG
EEHEE-HEE

WHAM!

KRISH
FWIP
VEEEERN!
...!
MAC-TER
THUD
EE-HEE...
YOU PRAISED ME
VEEEE
YOU DID WELL.
SWAY
THMP
HIS CORE...
EEERN


WHAT IS IT?
KILL
I FEEL SO... LIGHT...
HA HA
NOW...
--I CAN FINALLY BE FREE...
..THAT'S RIGHT.
EEHEE-HEE...

KLINK
YOU WENT BEFORE ME...
SONS AREN'T SUPPOSED TO DO THAT.

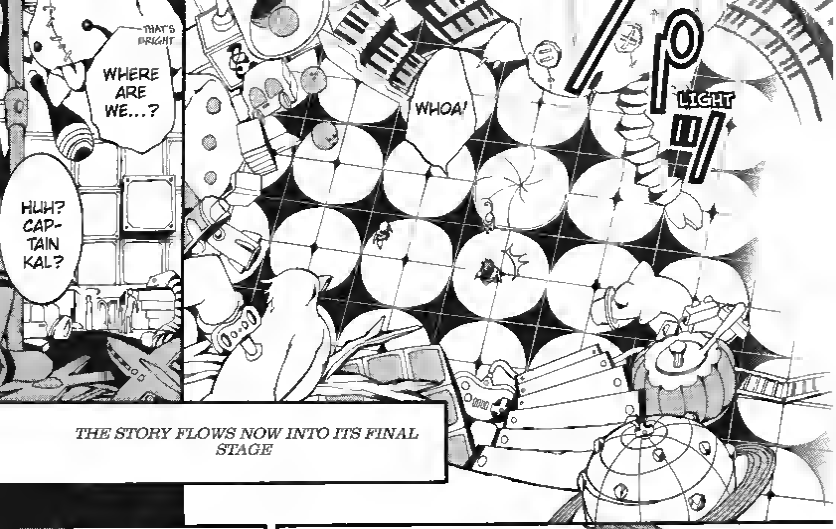
...YOU KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN, ONCE YOUR PROGRAM BROKE..
YOU SAID
WHY DIDN'T YOU CONFIDE IN ME SOONER THAN YOU DID?
WELL... THAT MUST HAVE MADE YOU..
...FEEL A LITTLE LONELY.
YOU DIDN'T TELL ANY-ONE. YOU KEPT IT TO YOURSELF.
YOU TOLD ME YOU HATED YOUR FACE
VALLEY.
VALLEY.
FWUP
IT HELPED ME WHEN THE TOYS TOOK EVERYTHING
BUT YOU PROBABLY HAVE NO IDEA HOW MUCH

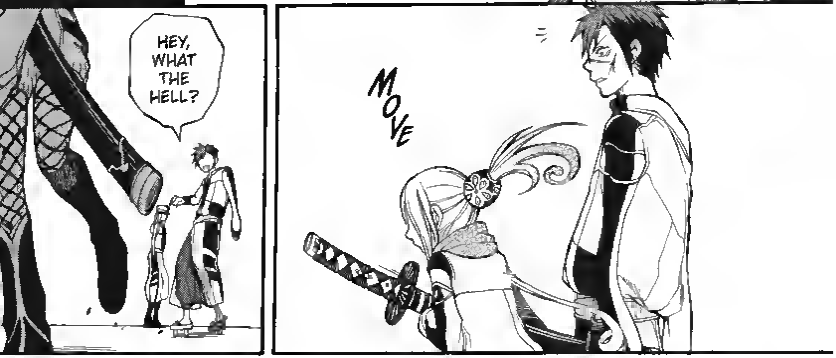
REST NOW IN PEACE, UNTIL THE DAY I GO TO JOIN YOU.
GREEEEE

BTAM
WAH!
EEK!
CLENCH
OHHHHO
HEY, SHORTY! EASY ON THE IN-JURIES!
YOU SURE IT'S THIS WAY?
IT'S PITCH DARK...
EEEE
WELL...
THIS ROOM WAS THE ONLY WAY WE COULD GO.
GRAB
NOW'S MY CHANCE...
IGH!
...
CLENCH
WOW... HOW INJURED DOES HE HAVE TO GET BEFORE HE'S SATIS-FIED?
...
AGHH! WHO'S SHOVIN' ME?!
PUSH

WHMP

SHI-
RA--
HUH?
HM? YOU SAY SOME-THIN', FORE-HEAD-BOY?
SHMM



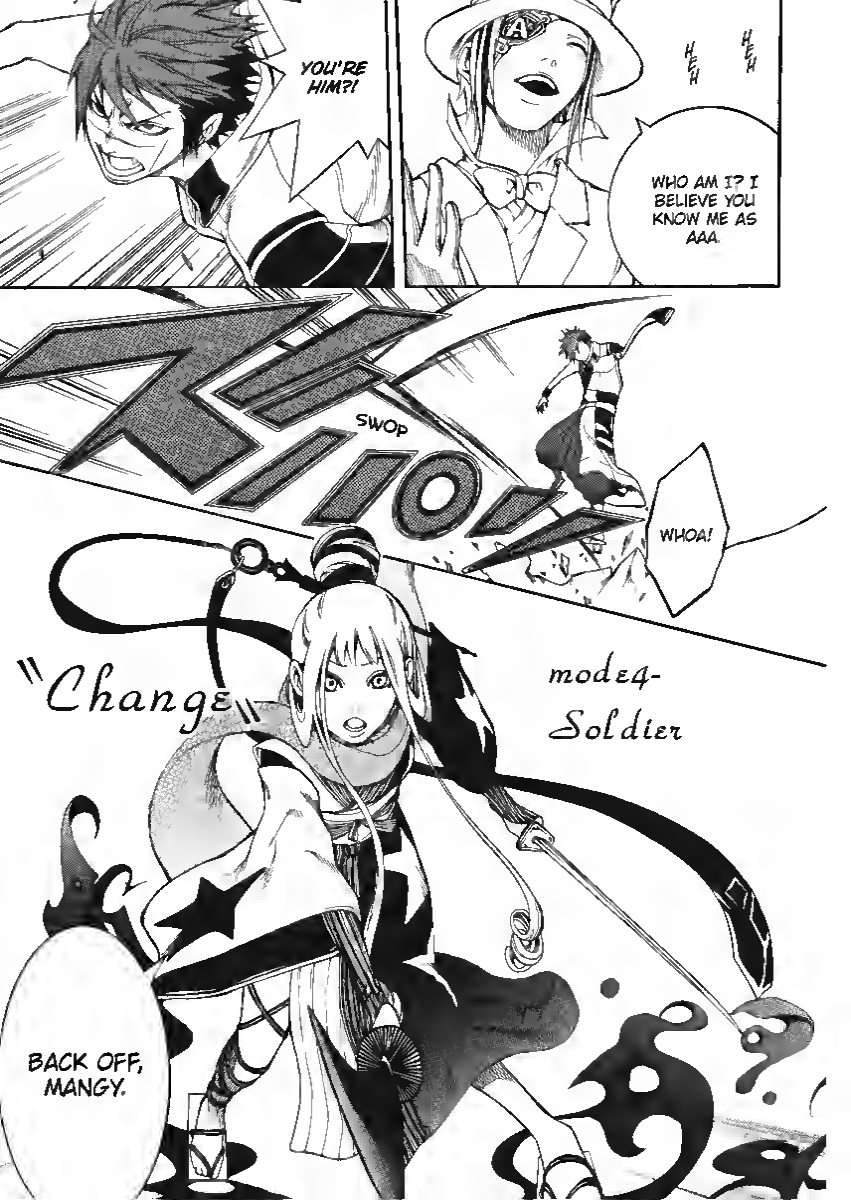

THOSE CARRIED BY THE FLOW ARE THE PLAYING CARD SOLDIERS SO, WHO DIRECTED THE FLOW ?

WHO IS THIS STORY'S INDISPENSABLE GUIDE, ANYWAY?

*THE ENDING HAD BEEN PLANNED EVER SINCE THE START*

# CARD 14: A JOB FOR THE WHITE RABBIT
# card:14 白うさぎのお仕事

...ZENRI?
KAL?!
CRASH
!
WHO'RE YOU?
KRNCH
!
OH RIGHT, SHIRA-HIME WAS--
IT LED TO THE ROOM BELOW!
I WAS DROPPED
...
CARDS! WE SHOULD NAME OUR TEAM AFTER THE PLAYING CARD SOLDIERS WHO OPPOSE ALICE!
SHIRA
SINCE WHEN DID...?
SINCE THE BEGINNING?
KH!


YOU'RE HIM?!
HEH HEH
WHO AM I? I BELIEVE YOU KNOW ME AS AAA.
SWOP
WHOA!
"Change"
mode4-
Soldier
BACK OFF, MANGY.

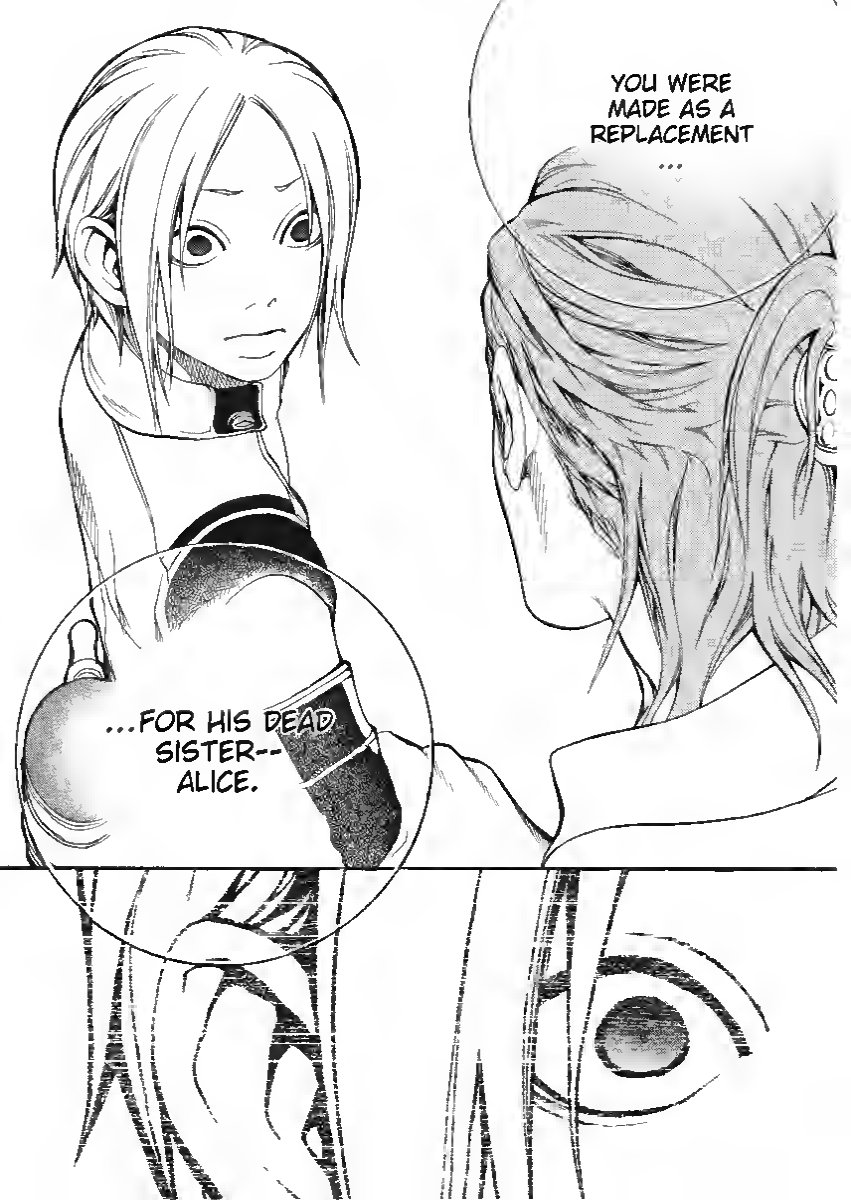
CAPTAIN SHIRA-HIME! WHY?!
I'M THE ONE WHO MADE HER.
I CAN EASILY DRAW OUT HER POWER, EVEN IF I'M NOT HER CONTRACT PARTNER.
WHOA, HEY ...!
GOOD GIRL
BECAUSE HE PROMISED IF I DO WHAT HE SAYS, HE WON'T KILL HIME OR ANYONE ELSE IN CARDS.
RIGHT ?
EHEHEH!

NOW, WHY DON'T WE KILL THE RED DOG?
UH...
!!
IF YOU TAKE TOO LONG, EVERYONE MIGHT DIE INSIDE ALICE, LIKE WHAT QUEEN DID ON HER OWN TO YOUR PARTNER.
IS THAT WHAT YOU WANT?
I DON'T WANT TO KILL HIM EITHER, BUT AT THIS RATE ALICE WILL DIE.
HIME

HURRY AND KILL THAT NUISANCE, RED DOG...
...AND WE'LL ALL BE FRIENDS.
BACHING
LIFT
FUCK YOU!
SHIFF
SHIFF
SHAP
SPLIT
...!
YOU LITTLE ...

SORRY, MANGY.
IT'S BETTER THAN JUST STAND-ING HERE!
SO YOU'RE GOING TO SEARCH THIS ENTIRE MAZE FOR THEM?
I CAN'T JUST STAND HERE AND WATCH
KH!
HEY, WHERE'RE YOU GO-ING?!
KRNCH
HE DIDN'T DO ALL THIS JUST TO KILL TIME.
ALL THE MORE REASON FOR YOU TO CALM DOWN.
KAL, LISTEN ...
HE REALLY HAS CHANGED.

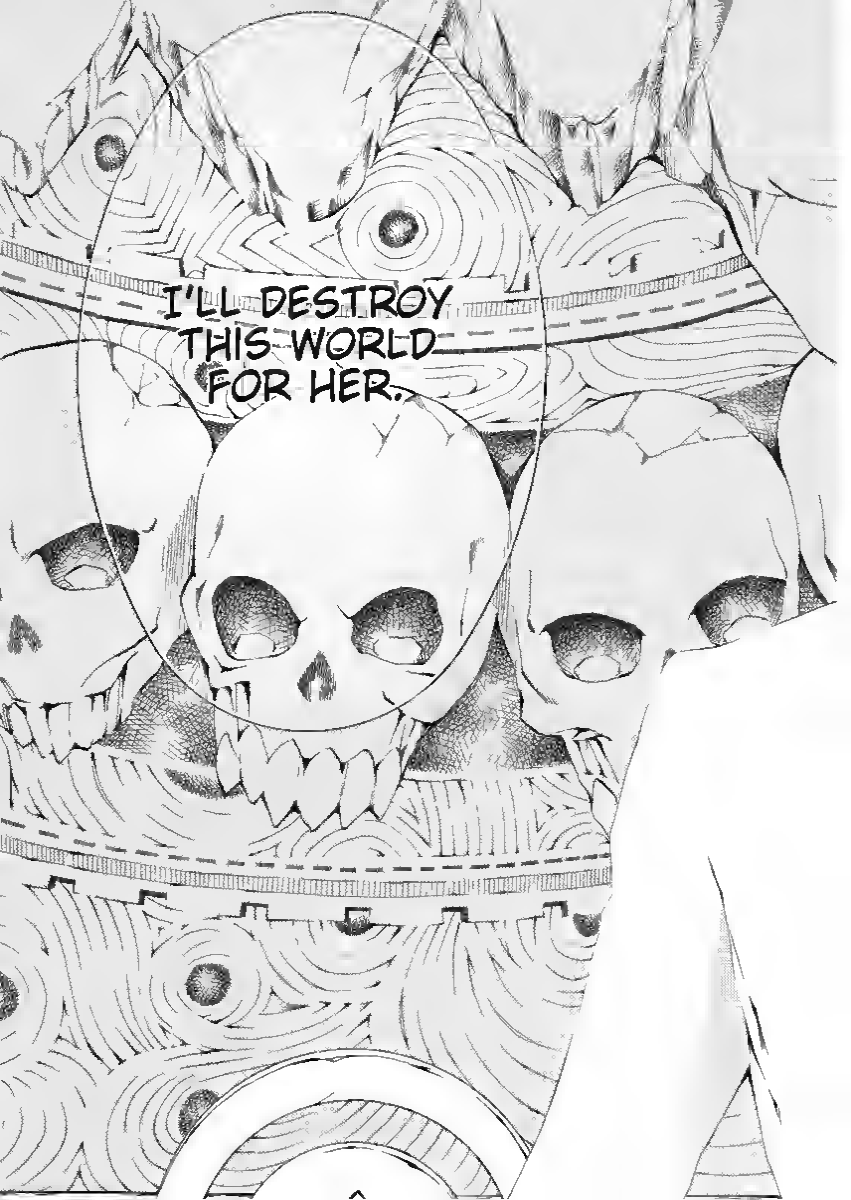
HUH ...?
HE DID IT TO MAKE YOU ACQUIRE EMOTIONS.
WHY ...?
I DON'T KNOW. I JUST KNOW HE SAID YOU'RE THE "KEY."
I KNOW HE'S UP TO SOMETHING, THOUGH.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
WHY.. WHY SHOULD IT BE ME...?!


YOU WERE MADE AS A REPLACEMENT ...
...FOR HIS DEAD SISTER-- ALICE.

THIS IS ALL JUST A GUESS ON MY PART...
BUT THE WHITE RABBIT, THE CHESHIRE CAT, THE MARCH HARE, THE HATTER.
ALL THESE THINGS YOU WERE FORCED TO EXPERIENCE WERE THE ONE STORY TO WHICH ALICE CLUNG.
Alices
YOU WENT THROUGH IT ALL IN PLACE OF HER...
FOR *THAT*...?!
BDOOOOM
TH-THAT'S CRAZY! ***THAT'S*** WHY I WAS...?
LISTEN, DON'T LET HIM MANIPULATE YOU. DON'T ACQUIRE ANY MORE EMOTIONS.
I JUST KNOW HE SAID QUEEN WAS A FLOP. WHICH MEANS ***YOU'RE*** THE HIT.
SO CALM DOWN. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THAT HAS TO DO WITH THE "KEY."

BUT SHE DIED, YOU KNOW.
YOU'RE THE KEY.
BATHUMP
ALICE
HIS SISTER
ALICE WAS MY TREASURE.
AND SHE CURSED THIS WORLD AS IT HAPPENED.
SHE WAS VERY, VERRRY PRECIOUS TO ME.

THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO DESTROY IT.


I'LL DESTROY
THIS WORLD
FOR HER.

WHA ...?!
ALL AT ONCE, THE WORLD WILL SHAKE AND TOPPLE.
THIS ALICE, YOU SEE. IT CAN CAUSE LARGE VIBRATIONS WHEN ACTIVATED.
AMAZING, ISN'T IT? I CAN MAKE EARTHQUAKES, ONLY SMALL ONES AT THIS POINT, THOUGH.
DMMM
THIS IS WHY THERE'VE BEEN SO MANY QUAKES LATELY
ONCE I INSERT THE KEY, ALICE WILL BE COMPLETE.
DMMM

NOW, HURRY AND FEEL.
HEH HEH
THE KEY ...
MY WORLD WAS EMPTY
BUT...
ANGER, HATRED, AND FEAR.
FEEL...?
AND THEN
AND HAPPINESS
PROTECTIVENESS AND LOVE
ENJOYMENT...
WHAT DO YOU...?
ONE MORE.
WHONG.
YOU CAN'T MEAN ....?

UH-HUH.
I'M SMASH-IN' THIS THING.
CLATA
--IS THAT ALL YOU GOTTA SAY?
TCH!
CHING
CLANG
SHWP
NO!
SHOVE
OUTTA THE WAY.
VMM
IF I DO AS I'M TOLD, AND EVEN IF THE WORLD IS RUINED, HIME...
EVERYONE WILL STILL BE ALIVE.
CAPTAIN SHIRA-HIME...! HE TRIED TO KILL HIME-CHIYO!
THAT WAS QUEEN'S FAULT!

I DON'T WANT TO DIE! I WANT TO STAY WITH EVERY-ONE!
Y-YOU DON'T UN-DERSTAND, MANGY...
SHIRA
MOVE IT
...
CHNK
...
MOVE.
SHE'S SO SMALL
AND SHIVER ING
WINCE
WHY WON'T YOU ATTACK ME...?!

BUT ...
IF I DO THAT, I'LL END UP DEAD ANYWAY ...
SHAKE
...TO KILL YOU
MOVE
I DON'T WANT ...
PLIP
PLIP
...
THAT'S TRUE
SORRY ...

NO...
STOP...
DON'T STAND UP...!
R-RED DOG!
SHAAA
STRAIN
...!
KRISH
UH
HEY
DON'T GO.. NEAR HER...!
SHIRA-HIME.
TWITCH
...
HHH
IF YOU INSIST.
...MIND IF I DIDN'T KILL MANGY?
WOULD YOU...

YOU'RE A BAD GIRL.
I DON'T NEED A CHILD WHO CAN'T DO...
...WHAT HER FATHER SAYS.
VWP

CLUNK
VEEEERN
HI
ME
AA
SHUP
SHE JUST HAD TO GO AND PICK UP POINTLESS EMOTIONS THIS LATE IN THE GAME.
THEY'RE ALL SO USELESS.
KRAK!

ASS-HOLE!
SNATCH
GH!
THNK
THNK
THNK
THNK
I'LL KILL YOU!
YOU'RE DEAD!
DEAD!
KRRCH
WHY'RE YOU SO ANGRY? ALL I DID WAS BREAK A DOLL

KAL!
I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE!
NEITHER CAN I.
LISTEN.
YANK
HUH?
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, DON'T BE SAD.
SHFAAA
THEY'RE ABOVE US, RIGHT?
ZENRI, WHAT...?

WHRAM
KRRK
KRRK
KRRK
KRRK
KRRK
KRUNK
WHA
—?!

IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR YOU TO DIE, TOO
LUNGE
I WILL KILL YOU, DAMMIT!
CLATA
RUMMM
THUD
ZEN

DON'T BE SAD.
BATHUMP
HOW DO YOU FEEL?

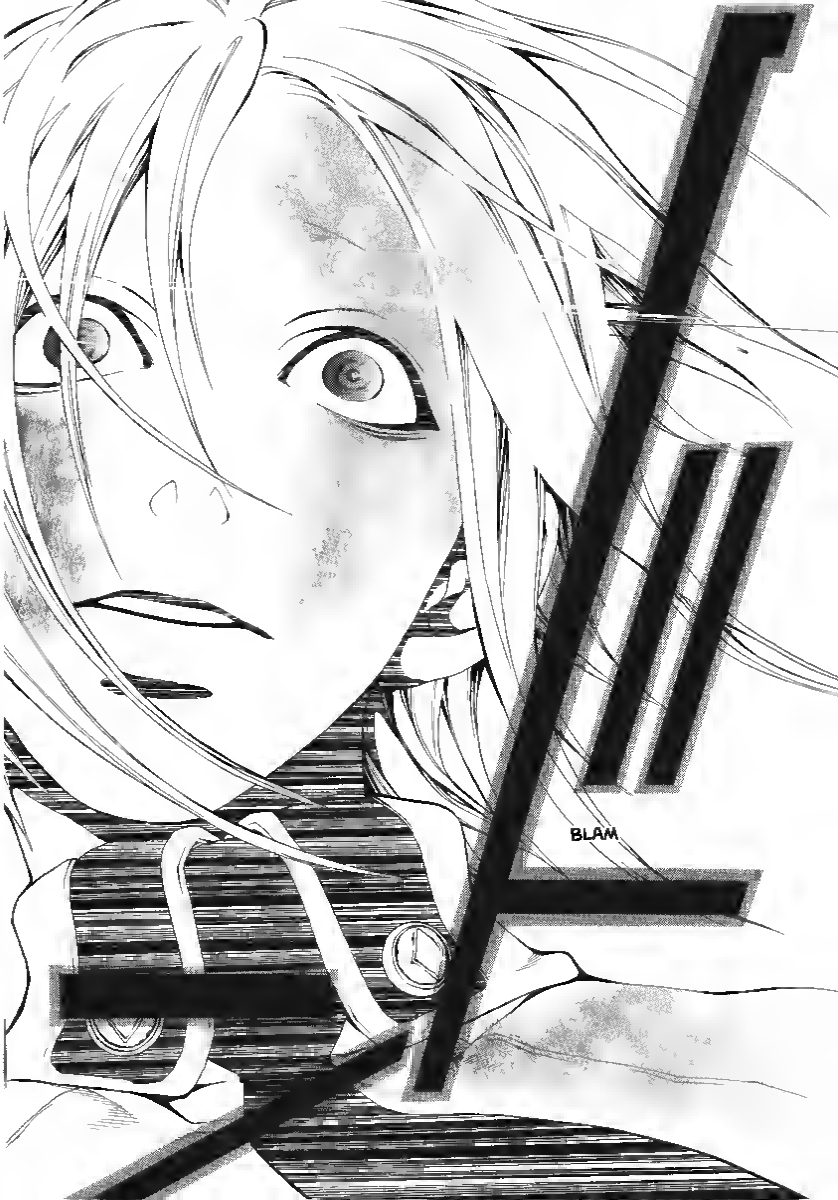
ARE YOU SAD?
EEEEEK!
AUGHH... AUGHH!
OR PERHAPS...
VHM
YOU STILL NEED MORE?
VHM
VHM
STOP IT!
EEEK!
STOP!
STOP!
WAHH!

RED DOG ...
YOU, EH...?
YOU REALLY ARE TENACIOUS
BUT YOU'RE DONE-FOR.
YOU'RE NO JOKER YOU'RE JUST A DISCARD.
RED DOG?
ボタ
PLAP
PLAP
ボ

--GOT OUTTA HERE
SPLAP

MY...
MY POWER...
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
SQUEEZE
RED DOG ...!
IT'S SAD. THEY ALL TRIED SO HARD
NOT INSIDE ALICE, ANYWAY.
YOU CAN'T USE IT
YOU'RE POWER-LESS.
THERE'S ONE MORE EMOTION..
AND YET THERE YOU SIT...
...UNABLE TO DO ANY-THING.
DON'T BE SAD
AH...

AH
AHH
IF ONLY YOU'D NEVER EXISTED.
IT'S YOUR FAULT.
...FOR YOU TO FEEL...
NONE OF THEM WOULD HAVE HAD TO DIE.
AH
AHH
AHH
CHING

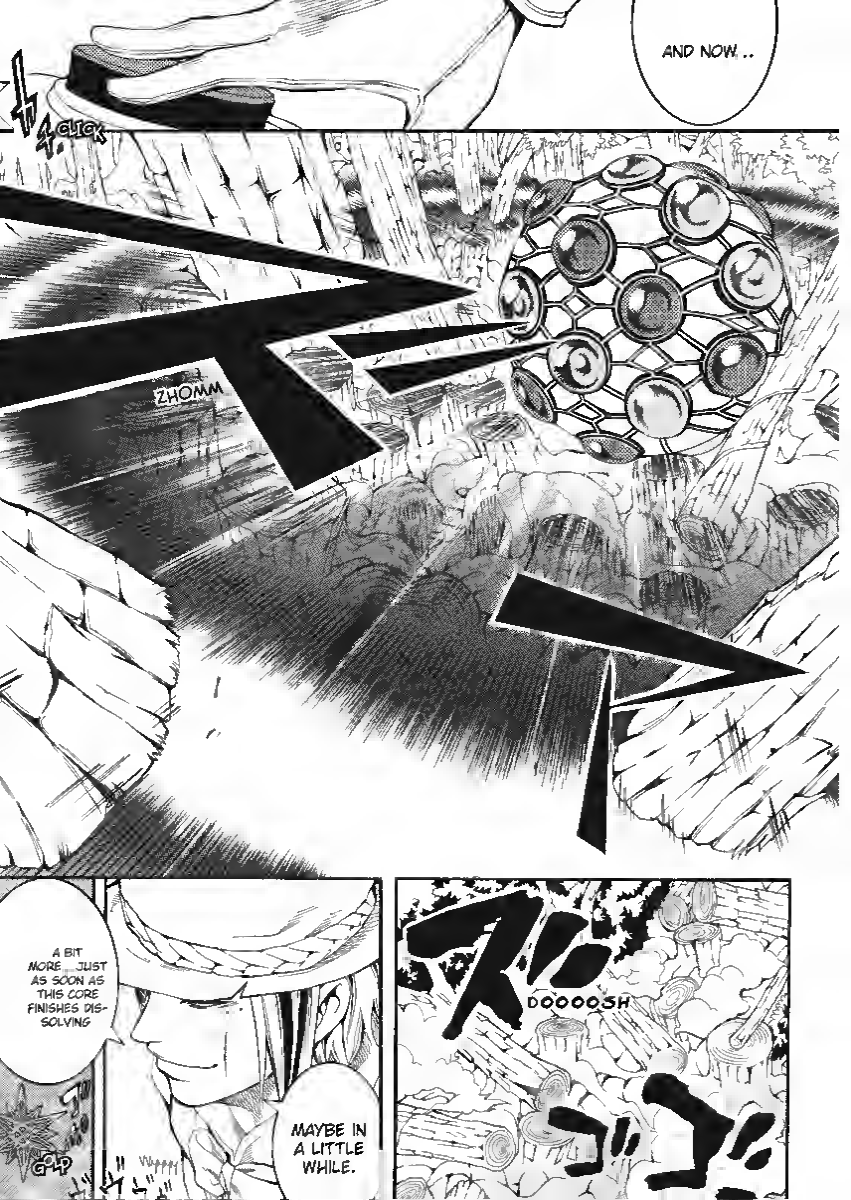

BLAM

PUK
IT'S FINALLY COMPLETE.
CLUNK
HEH
HEH
HEH
TOK
TOK
TOK
KEEEEEERN
IT'S THE PERFECT KEY
AHH, YES, THEY'RE ALL THERE

WELCOME HOME, ALICE. DID YOU ENJOY THE STORY?
NOW, TIME FOR THE FINALE.

# card:15 JOKER

ANGER
FEAR.
HATRED.
AHH, IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
HONNNN
HAPPI-NESS
ENJOY-MENT
LOVE
SAD-NESS.
THESE RICH EMOTIONS ARE DISSOLVING INTO ALICE...
GOLP
BATHUMP
NOW ALICE WILL HAVE A HEART.


AND NOW...
CLICK
ZHOMM
A BIT MORE... JUST AS SOON AS THIS CORE FINISHES DISSOLVING
GULP
MAYBE IN A LITTLE WHILE.
DOOOOSH
ゴゴゴ

SOON..
...THE WORLD WILL END.
ALICE...
ALICE.
YOU'VE BEEN GONE FOR THIRTY YEARS NOW
IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME...
MY BODY IS A MESS FROM THE AGING-INHIBITOR DRUGS.
IT WON'T BE LONG NOW.
HONNN
LET'S DESTROY EVERYTHING AND REMAKE IT
IT'LL BE A FUN WORLD ALL OVER AGAIN

AND
I'M THERE
YOU'RE THERE
I WISH THIS WHOLE
WORLD WOULD JUST GO AWAY
YES... ALICE.
JUST LIKE YOU WISHED.

DLAD
ははは
ははは

SHWOP
THIS GUY
YOU... YOU REALLY ARE PERSISTENT.
SHA
SHONK
SWAY

STOP IT!
RIGHT NOW
STOP THIS.. DAMN THING..!
!
HE SHOULD BARELY EVEN BE ABLE TO STAND. WHAT WILL-POWER!
NO.
GOH!
KRRK
KRRK
KRRK
GROK
AGH...?
KRRK
I'M GRATEFUL FOR YOU.
YOU COULD SAY I HAVE YOU TO THANK FOR THIS.
GAH
AGHH

I MEAN FOR KAL.
I NEEDED A KEY, A HEART CONTAINING SEVEN EMOTIONS, TO SET ALICE INTO MOTION.
BATHUMP
MAKING IT'S CONTAINER WAS NO EASY TASK
I FAILED AGAIN AND AGAIN.
A DOLL--A CONTAINER EXCLUSIVELY FOR COLLECTING EMOTIONS.
THEN I FINALLY SUCCEEDED.

I'M SO GLAD I LET KAL STRIKE OUT FROM ALICE.
SCREW YOU!
HE LEARNED ALL SORTS OF THINGS
SHIT, I CAN'T EVEN
HE'D ONLY LEARN NEGATIVE EMOTIONS
IT DIDN'T GO VERY WELL, THOUGH.
SCOOT
I JUST MADE ONE MISCALCULATION
I ASSIGNED A GUARD SO HE WOULDN'T BREAK HIMSELF...
AND A GUIDE SO HE'D MAKE HIS WAY BACK HERE
IT'S LIKE HE WAS INFLUENCED BY YOUR UNBRIDLED EMOTIONS.
IT WAS AMUSING HOW *READILY* HE THEN LEARNED FEELINGS.
CLENCH
THEN, HE MET YOU.

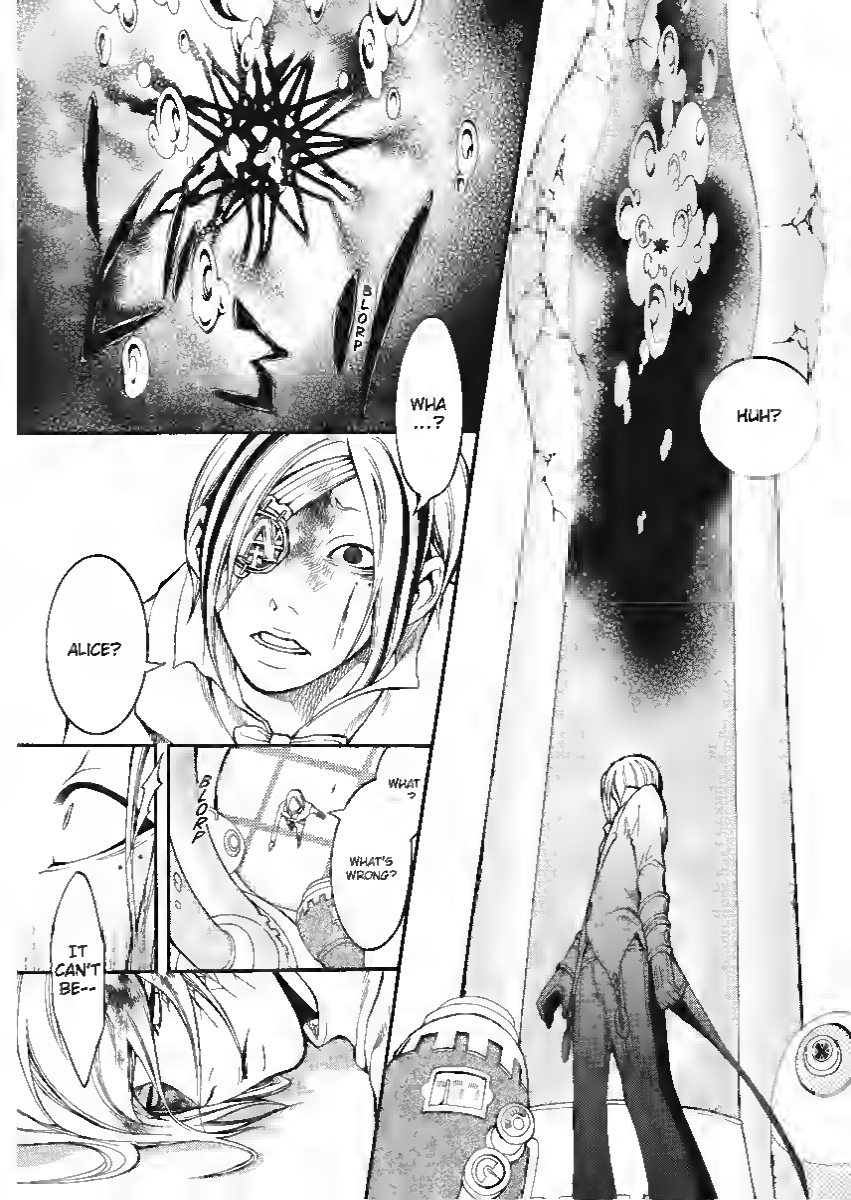
SO WHUD ABOUD ...
SOME ZOUPID ZDORY?!
IZH THAT... WHUD ...?!
IZH THAT WHUD THEY WERE BUILD FOR...?!
WHAT WAS I BUILT FOR ?
FUG THAT! HE'S NOT A GIY!
HE'S NOD ALICE!
KAL
HE FOLLOWED THE STORY SO HIS CORE WOULD BECOME THE KEY... BECOME ALICE.
THE FAIRY TAIL
MY STORY, I DEDICATED TO HER.
CRUNCH
THAT'S A NASTY THOUGHT. DON'T PUT ALICE ON THE SAME LEVEL AS THIS JUNK CONTAINER.
THE CORE'S THE IMPORTANT THING. I DON'T NEED THIS...
TWITCH
KAL?
ALICE?

ANYM--
WHOCK
...!
BAS-
DARD...!

HOW DO YOU THINK THEY FELT?
DEY'RE NOD UN-NEEDED!
DEY'RE NOD UNNEEDED!
AHAHAHAHA! ALL THE UNDERDOG CAN DO IS BARK.
VNN
VNN
AGHH?!
HUH HUH HUH HUH...
AHAH!

FINALLY.
FINALLY.
FINALLY.
DON'T GET IN MY WAY
I'VE FINALLY COME THIS FAR.
THUD
AHAHA
YOU CAN'T EVEN SWING YOUR SWORD NOW.
WHO CARES ...?!
NNNA
SLICE
WHAT A POOR EXCUSE FOR A JUSTICE HERO.
AND YOU CAN HARDLY EVEN SEE, CAN YOU?
DIZZY

ZEY ZOMEDIN, FOREHEAD-BOY!
DON'T JUST DROP DEAD ON ME HERE!
I WON LED ID...
END DIZ WAY...!
YOU THINK IT SUCKS TOO, DON'T YOU?!
SO WHAT ABOUT JUSTICE, FOOL?
ANGER
SHFF
SMILES
SADNESS
I CAN'T BELIEVE SUCH NATURAL THINGS WERE DESIGNED.
GOLP


BLORP
WHA ...?
HUH?
ALICE?
BLORP
WHAT?
WHAT'S WRONG?
IT CAN'T BE--

I DON'T CARE ABOUT JUSTICE
AGHH
GAGHH
AGHH
GAGHH
I NEVER ASKED FOR SOMETHIN' AS HEAVY AS THE WORLD ON MY SHOULDERS
I
JUST
WANT...

TO BEAT
YOU
DOWN!

ALICE --
KRASSSH
FAILED...?
-- NO WAY
KRI
SH
YOU MEAN I...

A-ALICE...
ALICE!
...SEBEN EMOJUNS? ZAYZ WHO...?!
HEHH
HEHH
HHHH
EMOJUNS ARE MORE GOM-BLIGADED DEN DAT...
HHH
RMMBLE
HE HAS A LOT MORE THAN THAT
!
MAXIMUM LEVEL, EXCEED-ED...

JUST AS IT ACTIVATED... THE KEY WAS DESTROYED
ALICE'S HEART DIED...
WHA...?!
RMMMBBBL
ALICE...IS.. COLLAPSING...
...YOU WON'T... FINISH ME...OFF?
RMMB
*NOTE: "SHIT..!"
SHFF
ZHID'...!
BED YOU'D LIGE DAD...
BUD YOU GED DO DIE WID ALIZE...!
RMMB
FLMP
FLMP

THAT'S...CRUEL OF YOU.
RUMBLE
HE'S A HELL OF A JOKER, ALL RIGHT...
I CAN'T STAND UP ONE SLICE DID THIS
PANG
...!
I'M...ALL ALONE AGAIN...
ALICE
THUD
IT'S ALL TOO SOON NEXT TIME IT'LL BE MORE
KOTE
RUMBLE

HHHHF
KRCH
.. YOU'RE ALIVE
....
IT WAS ALICE, ME, AND YOU .. WE PLAYED EVERY DAY ..
SO MUCH FUN BACK THEN ...
.. IT WAS ...
BWWWWL
FLAP
THE STORY BEGINS HERE,
UNDER A CLEAR GOLDEN SKY.
THIS IS A VIRTUAL DREAM.
WHETHER THAT WAS THE BEGINNING OR THE END, THE COUNTDOWN HAD BEGUN.
ONE MORE..

IT WASN'T EVEN FINISHED
I WONDER WHERE IT WENT WRONG
SHE'D LIKE SUCH A WONDERFUL STORY
AH.. THAT...
I... WROTE THAT FOR ALICE...
WHEN YOU... UP AND LEFT THIS PLACE..?
WHEN THE KEY... ACQUIRED TOO MANY EMOTIONS..?
WHEN THE JOKER SLIPPED INTO THE DECK..?
AHH MY MIND IS NUMB
..AND HERE I THOUGHT...YOU AT LEAST..WOULD STAY ON MY SIDE...
THIS TIME I FAILED...
BUT NEXT TIME
THE MEDICINE'S WEARING OFF
HEY, MAN
THUMP

THE FANTASY STORY'S OVER.
ALICE
BEST FRIEND.
I'LL STAY WITH YOU FOR THE END...
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE WENT TO SLEEP
ALICE.
NOR WILL MY DREAM
ALICE
SORRY LOOKS LIKE YOUR WISH WON'T COME TRUE

KRUNK
I SO WANTED TO LIVE AND LAUGH WITH YOU!

UH...?
MMM
MM!
TWINGE
AH!
RED DOG...?!
HE'S ABOUT TO PASS OUT...
BANG!
!
WHAT?!

AH!
PITCH
!!
CAPTAIN KAL, CAPTAIN SHIRA-HIME..!
WHAT DO I DO...?! ALICE IS COLLAPS-ING...AND THIS IS A DEAD END.
WHAT DO I DO?! WHAT...?!
KH! NOT NOW!
REACH
AH...!

HUH?!
CAPTAIN SHIRA-HIME...?!
VEERN
SHIRA
BUT SHE HAS NO CORE
COULD HER CONSCIOUSNESS STILL BE IN THERE?!
AH...!
POP

GACHONG
SHOOMP
PLEASE ...GET ..
OUT OF.. HERE.
TWITCH
-- OH ...!
CLANG
AH AH
CHHT
CHHT
GACHONG
WHRRRRR
GULGG

RMMBLE
CAPTAIN! YOU TWO COME, TOO...!
PLEASE
HURRY... AND GO.
RIDE THIS BALLOON DOWN TO THE GROUND...
THE OTH-ERS...
...SHOULD ALREADY BE...OUT THERE...

...RIGHT NOW WE'RE KIND OF RUNNING ON OUR CORES' RESIDUAL BATTERY POWER. .
ALICE IS GOING TO BREAK SOON. EITHER WAY... WE CAN'T HOLD OUT.
CLING
BESIDES... THE AIR CONTROLS FOR LOWERING THE BALLOON... ONLY WORK FROM HERE...
LISTEN... TELL HIME...
---...
THEN I'LL DO IT...!
NO.
!
GRUNK
...!
SCRAPE
CAP-TAIN!
THERE'S NO TIME
PLEASE HURRY AND GO
JUST LOOK STRAIGHT AHEAD.
IF YOU LOOK BACK, YOU'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD.

IF YOU WERE ME .. YOU'D PROBABLY BE DOING THE SAME THING.
AT LEAST LET ME SHOW OFF HERE AT THE END.
I'M...ALL RIGHT.. I HEARD WHAT MANGY SAID
"DEY'RE NOD UNNEEDED!"
GOES UNBAID.
NO DEED ...
ZDIG DO ID.

*AGAIN.*

SHOOMP
CHING
YWEEEEE
--ME NEITHER.
YOU'RE NOT AFRAID?
NOPE.
BUT
HAD IT BEEN POSSIBLE
MAYBE I D HAVE LIKED TO LIVE IN THIS WORLD A BIT MORE

THANKS.

RMMMBLE
THAT WAS THE DAY...

ALICE COL-LAPSED
THE CURTAIN CLOSED ON THE UNFINISHED STORY
THUS DID OUR BIG-LITTLE CONFLICT END
AND THE WORLD WAS NONE THE WISER

CLACK
NITO.
COULD I BORROW THAT BOOK WE TALKED ABOUT?
BOOK?
THEN, EVERYDAY LIFE BEGAN FOR US AGAIN
AS FOR HIMECHIYO SHE'S STILL SEARCHING ALICE'S RUBBLE FOR CAPTAIN SHIRAHIME
AND VALLEY JUST STARES OFF INTO THE DISTANCE ALL DAY
THE RED DOG STILL HAS YET TO WAKE UP
TECHNICALLY CARDS WAS DISBANDED
BUT HARDLY ANYONE ACTUALLY LEFT RATTLE PARK

HE'S SUCH A LIAR.
HE NEVER DID GIVE IT BACK.
OH RIGHT, THAT BOOK.
BORROW
EVERY-BODY STILL THINKS A LOT ABOUT THE CAP TAINS
TNK
TNK
CLATA
The Boy Who Cried Wolf
Thanks.
DISPLEASED LOVE SIGN

BUT THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR NOW
EVERY-ONE BE-LIEVES IT
...YEAH, WHAT A LIAR.
HUH?
THAT SOME-DAY...
THAT SOMEDAY
core
SOME-DAY
WHERE'D HE GO IN HIS SHAPE ...?

AGHHH, I'M
SO BORED.

*WE'LL GET TO SMILE TOGETHER BENEATH A PEACEFUL SKY.*

**REPLICA THE END**

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Follow the diagram to see how it's done!
1
2
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4
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